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FACT SHEET

Special Projects: Multi-Purpose Dams and Toxic Cleanup

OVERVIEW

In collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), USAID launched a project to use USACE engineering services, contract administration, and construction management for selected USAID projects. This effort currently involves several components: 1) extend the watershed evaluations to the 12 remaining provinces of northern and western Afghanistan, 2) use the watershed assessments to select sites for the survey and design of small multi-purpose dams, and 3) prepare a remediation plan for two toxic waste sites. The proposed activities will improve agricultural production, increase employment and incomes in certain strategic agricultural areas and protect the public from continued exposure to numerous hazardous materials.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Maximize the most efficient use of resources in selecting small irrigation dam placement according to the geology, hydrology, and watershed characteristics of the basins
- Prepare detailed designs of up to 10 dams
- Build the capacity of the Afghan government to clean up and remediate Soviet-era toxic waste sites
- Use USACE imagery, remote sensing, and site visits to review and prioritize areas where water resource development projects have a high probability of sustainable and successful implementation
- Prepare to advertize a solicitation to conduct a site evaluation and develop a remediation plan for both Afghan government sites
- Continue watershed assessments in 16 provinces in the south and east

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• Completed watershed assessments of six provinces (Paktika, Khost, Ghazni, Logar, Paktya, and Wardak provinces)